



## Inclement Weather Reminder

The library strives to be open no matter what the weather. However, patrons are encouraged to call first if there is ice or snow. Fines are not charged on days that the Lynchburg City Schools are closed due to bad weather.

455-6300

Press 1 for hours and  
closing information.



## Do you know them?

Margaret Reid, the library's first professional children's librarian poses with youngsters in this 1975 or 76 photo. The third child from the left is Nicole Lenon, daughter of Audrey Lenon, retired library circulation clerk, and Paris Lenon, who retired from Parks and Recreation.

# LYNCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Newsletter

VOLUME 7 - NUMBER 1

JAN/FEB/MARCH 2007

[www.lynchburgva.gov/publiclibrary](http://www.lynchburgva.gov/publiclibrary)



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## New Children's Computer Literacy Stations @ your library

The children's department is grateful for the generosity of



- Bank of the James
- BWXT
- Frito-Lay
- N.B. Handy
- Wachovia Foundation
- Wachovia Securities
- and
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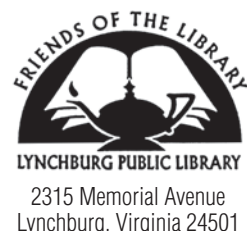
for providing four **AWE Early Literacy Stations**. These will open a lifetime of learning to the children of our community. The donations were made in conjunction with the Friends 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Endowment Fund Campaign.

Each station is packed with developmentally appropriate software that crosses all curricula. The recommended ages are 3-7 but many times older children are also intrigued with software, such as the *The Human Body*, conducted by Seymour Skinless, who tells them to enter, "if they can stomach it."

Challenging and exciting programs, tough, colorful keyboards, and a special mouse designed for smaller hands all make the Early Learning Stations very popular with children and their parents. Positive reinforcement is always available whether the children get the correct answer or not, which encourages them to continue.

The computers are rarely idle. With 30 minute sessions, there are about 300 user sessions each week at the main library.

The Downtown Branch, which has a more adult clientele, reports that two or three small children come in a few times a week to use the programs. Staff report they really enjoy the programs - they always have big smiles on their faces. As soon as their 30 minute session ends, they run to the desk to ask for more time.



2315 Memorial Avenue  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24501

#### MAIN LIBRARY

2315 Memorial Ave.  
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Circulation, Renewals,  
Returns, Library Cards  
455-6300

Reference and  
Information  
455-6310

Youth Services  
455-6320

Administration and  
Technical Services  
455-6330

Volunteer Program  
455-6330

#### LIBRARY HOURS Main

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.  
9:30 AM-5:30 PM

Tues., Thurs.  
9:30 AM-9:00 PM

**Downtown Branch**  
Mon.- Fri.  
9:30 AM-5:30 PM

**DOWNTOWN BRANCH  
AND LAW LIBRARY**  
900 Church Street  
Lynchburg, VA 24504  
455-3820

#### CLOSED

Monday, January 1  
New Year's Day

Monday, January 15  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Day

Monday, February 19  
President's Day

[www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary](http://www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary)

## Library Employees Recognized for Outstanding Customer Service

Youth Services staff **Lorry Risinger**, **Ellen Morgan**, and **Nehemiah Hanson** were recognized with the city's October's *Outstanding Customer Service Award* for their work this summer in taking the library to elementary-aged children who were unlikely to ever visit the library. They implemented an outreach program, GUS-PLUS.

Educators



tell us that if a child does not reinforce his or her reading skills over the summer, up to three years of reading skill level may be lost. They realized that older children would be attracted to GUS as he visited inner city neighborhoods, building

kindergarten readiness skills in preschoolers. But, by the terms of his grant funding, GUS would not be able to serve those older

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## Phasing Out Virginia Paper Tax Forms

As a cost savings measure, the VA Department of Taxation will no longer distribute paper tax forms through public libraries. Taxpayers are encouraged to file electronically.

- Every Virginian who filed a 2005 hand print tax return will receive a complete 2006 Income Tax Return package in the mail
- Paper forms will be available at the Commissioner of Revenue's office in City Hall – 900 Church Street
- Paper forms may be obtained by calling the *Forms Request* number - (804) 440-2541 – they will be mailed to you
- Virginia tax forms are available on the web on January 1, 2007 at [www.tax.virginia.gov](http://www.tax.virginia.gov)

Consider Electronic Filing

- In 2007 Lynchburg Public Library will host a class on *How to File Tax Returns Electronically* on Friday, January 26 from 10:00 a.m. - noon. Call Adult Services at 455-6310 to sign up.

**Federal Tax Forms** will be available at the main library and on the web: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

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children. So, they traveled along with GUS, putting out bins of attractive books on a table beside the bus at each stop. Over 150 unique children were served.

But, in early August, GUS developed serious mechanical problems and was forced off the road, missing 22 stops (5+ days). Lorry, Ellen, and Nehemiah did not want their children to be disappointed; they were determined to find a way to continue the program. They decorated their own cars, and Lorry's husband's precious pick-up, with hula skirts and a 6' fake palm tree to draw attention, and made their rounds in 95° heat. They'd arrive at James Crossing, the

Meadows and other housing complexes, circle the parking lot to draw attention and then set up their table and bins of books beside the car and be open for business. One little boy said, "I didn't hear GUS, and I thought he'd forgotten me. I looked out my window and saw a funny looking car and knew you were here!" He came running with his books in his arms.

Lorry and Ellen received a *Certificate of Recognition* and are eligible for the city's annual "Catch a Star" Program in January. Nehemiah, a graduate student at LU no longer works for the library.



## My Irish Library Visit

In September 2006, I spent two weeks in the Republic of Ireland. I stayed with my friend Kristen Andreae in a private guest house in Kenmare, County Kerry. This is a beautiful area on the Southwest coast of Ireland. After our hot, dry summer in Lynchburg, Ireland provided a cool and welcome respite. One of the first things we did when we went to town, was to stop at the Kenmare Branch of the

Kerry County Public Library. We wanted to use the Internet, and Kristen had books to return. I was introduced to Librarian Carmel Moriarty, and was surprised to see her using the same Horizon Library software that we do! As we discussed the use of Horizon, we both agreed that it was a very friendly and flexible system. Their branch is one large room in an old Carnegie building, equivalent in size to the Downtown Branch Library in Lynchburg.

Some facts about the public libraries in Ireland are interesting to note. The library is open to everyone, but you must be a member to borrow books or other items. There are no charges for *joining*, and both adults and children may borrow up to 6 items at a time. There is a *charge to borrow*, however - 30 cents

per item. Children, second level students, and senior citizens are exempt from the charges. Or, users may pay an annual charge of 12 Euros (\$16.00). The loan period is 21 days, and overdue items are charged at 10 cents per book per week. Open Hours are Tues-Sat 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.-5 p.m.

I had a wonderful vacation which also included a trip to Dublin and the Trinity College Library to view the Book of Kells. And just in case you make the trip, look for the sign that says "Leabharlann" and you will be right at home.

Marilyn K. Martin  
*Librarian*  
*Downtown Branch*